

|This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-18 (cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) An information utilization apparatus comprising:

a memory configured to store encoded first data and applicable time information which defines a plurality of modes of utilization of the first data and executable time periods of operations respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization, the plurality of modes of utilization including a display mode, a printing mode, and a storage mode;

~~a plurality of decoding units provided respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization and configured to decode the first data stored in the memory;~~

~~a plurality of processing units arranged respectively corresponding to the plurality of decoding units and configured to respectively execute operations corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization using second data obtained from decoding the first data;~~

a display data decoding unit corresponding to the display mode and configured to decode the first data stored in the memory;

a printing data decoding unit corresponding to the printing mode and configured to decode the first data stored in the memory;

a storage data decoding unit corresponding to the storage mode and configured to decode the first data stored in the memory;

a display processing unit corresponding to the display data decoding unit and configured to execute a display operation corresponding to the display mode using second data obtained from decoding of the first data;

a printing processing unit corresponding to the printing data decoding unit and configured to execute a printing operation corresponding to the printing mode using second data obtained from decoding of the first data;

a storage processing unit corresponding to the storage data decoding unit and configured to execute a storage operation corresponding to the storage mode using second data obtained from decoding of the first data;

a judging unit configured to judge if a requested operation is executable, upon a request for operation execution, by reading the applicable time information from the memory and

referring to an executable time period corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by the request to compare with a current time; and

an operation command issuing unit configured to issue a command for action to a decoding unit corresponding to one of the display data decoding unit, the printing data decoding unit, and the storage data decoding unit, corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request when the judging unit judges that the requested operation is executable.

20. (Currently Amended) An information utilization apparatus comprising:

a memory configured to store encoded first data and applicable time information which defines a plurality of modes of utilization of the first data and executable time periods of operations respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization, the plurality of modes of utilization including a display mode, a printing mode, and a storage mode;

a decoding unit configured to decode the first data stored in the memory;

a data storage unit configured to store second data obtained from decoding the first data;

~~a plurality of processing units configured to respectively execute operations corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization using the second data stored in the data storage unit;~~

a display processing unit configured to execute a display operation corresponding to the display mode using second data stored in the data storage unit;

a printing processing unit configured to execute a printing operation corresponding to the printing mode using second data stored in the data storage unit;

a storage processing unit configured to execute a storage operation corresponding to the storage mode using second data stored in the data storage unit;

a judging unit configured to judge if a requested operation is executable, upon a request for operation execution, by reading the applicable time information from the memory and referring to an executable time period corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by the request to compare with a current time; and

an operation command issuing unit configured to issue commands for actions to the decoding unit and ~~a processing unit corresponding to one of the display processing unit, the printing processing unit, and the storage processing unit, corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request if the second data is not stored in the data storage unit and configured to~~

issue a command for action to the processing unit corresponding to one of the display processing unit, the printing processing unit, and the storage processing unit, corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request if the second data is stored in the data storage unit when the judging unit judges that the requested operation is executable.

21. (Currently Amended) An information utilization apparatus comprising:

~~a memory configured to store encoded first data and applicable time information which defines a plurality of modes of utilization of the first data and executable time periods of operations respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization, the plurality of modes of utilization including a display mode, a printing mode, and a storage mode;~~

~~a plurality of decoding units provided respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization and configured to decode the first data stored in the memory;~~

~~a plurality of processing units arranged respectively corresponding to the plurality of decoding units and configured to respectively execute operations corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization using second data obtained from decoding the first data;~~

a display data decoding unit corresponding to the display mode and configured to decode the first data stored in the memory;

a printing data decoding unit corresponding to the printing mode and configured to decode the first data stored in the memory;

a storage data decoding unit corresponding to the storage mode and configured to decode the first data stored in the memory;

a display processing unit corresponding to the display data decoding unit and configured to execute a display operation corresponding to the display mode using second data obtained from decoding of the first data;

a printing processing unit corresponding to the printing data decoding unit and configured to execute a printing operation corresponding to the printing mode using second data obtained from decoding of the first data;

a storage processing unit corresponding to the storage data decoding unit and configured to execute a storage operation corresponding to the storage mode using second data obtained from decoding of the first data;

a judging unit configured to judge if a requested operation is executable, upon a request for operation execution, by reading the applicable time information from the memory and referring to an executable time period corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by the request to compare with a current time;

an operation command issuing unit configured to issue a command for action to a decoding unit corresponding to one of the display data decoding unit, the printing data decoding unit, and the storage data decoding unit, corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request in a case where the judging unit judges that the requested operation is executable; and

an operation command reserving unit configured to prevent the issuance of the command to the decoding unit one of the display data decoding unit, the printing data decoding unit, and the storage data decoding unit until a current time reaches the executable time period when the judging unit does not judge that the requested operation is executable.

22. (Currently Amended) An information utilization apparatus comprising:

a memory configured to store encoded first data and applicable time information which defines a plurality of modes of utilization of the first data and executable time periods of operations respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization, the plurality of modes of utilization including a display mode, a printing mode, and a storage mode;

a decoding unit configured to decode the first data stored in the memory;

a data storage unit configured to store second data obtained from decoding the first data;

a plurality of processing units configured to respectively execute operations corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization using the second data stored in the data storage unit;

a display processing unit configured to execute a display operation corresponding to the display mode using second data stored in the data storage unit;

a printing processing unit configured to execute a printing operation corresponding to the printing mode using second data stored in the data storage unit;

a storage processing unit configured to execute a storage operation corresponding to the storage mode using second data stored in the data storage unit;

a judging unit configured to judge if a requested operation is executable, upon a request for operation execution, by reading the applicable time information from the memory and

referring to an executable time period corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by the request to compare with a current time;

an operation command issuing unit configured to issue commands for actions to the decoding unit and a processing unit corresponding to one of the display processing unit, the printing processing unit, and the storage processing unit, corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request if the second data is not stored in the data storage unit and configured to issue a command for action to the processing unit corresponding to one of the display processing unit, the printing processing unit, and the storage processing unit, corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request if the second data is stored in the data storage unit when the judging unit judges that the requested operation is executable; and

an operation command reserving unit configured to prevent the issuance of the command to the decoding unit until a current time reaches the executable time period when the judging unit does not judge that the requested operation is executable.

23. (Currently Amended) An information access control method for use in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores information including encoded first data, the method comprising:

storing, in the memory, the first data encoded and applicable time information which defines a plurality of modes of utilization of the first data and executable time periods of operations respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization, the plurality of modes of utilization including a display mode, a printing mode, and a storage mode;

judging if a requested operation is executable, upon a request for operation execution, by reading the applicable time information from the memory and referring to an executable time period corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by the request to compare with a current time;

decoding the first data stored in the memory by a decoding unit corresponding to one of a display data decoding unit, a printing data decoding unit, and a storage data decoding unit, corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request when the judgment indicates that the requested operation is executable, the decoding unit being one of a plurality of decoding units provided respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization the display data

decoding unit, the printing data decoding unit, and the storage data decoding unit being provided respectively corresponding to the display mode, the printing mode, and the storage mode; and

executing the requested operation using second data obtained from decoding the first data by a processing unit corresponding to one of a display processing unit, a printing processing unit, and a storage processing unit, corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request, the processing unit being one of a plurality of processing units arranged respectively corresponding to the plurality of decoding units the display processing unit, the printing processing unit, and the storage processing unit respectively corresponding to the display data decoding unit, the printing data decoding unit, and the storage data decoding unit.

24. (Currently Amended) An information access control method for use in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores information including encoded first data, the method comprising:

storing, in the memory, the encoded first data and applicable time information which defines a plurality of modes of utilization of the first data and executable time periods of operations respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization, the plurality of modes of utilization including a display mode, a printing mode, and a storage mode;

judging if a requested operation is executable, upon a request for operation execution, by reading the applicable time information from the memory and referring to an executable time period corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by the request to compare with a current time;

decoding the first data stored in the memory by a decoding unit when the judgment indicates that the requested operation is executable;

storing, in a data storage unit, second data obtained from decoding the first data;

executing the requested operation using the second data stored in the data storage unit by a processing unit corresponding to one of a display processing unit, a printing processing unit, and a storage processing unit, corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request, the processing unit being one of a plurality of processing units which respectively execute operations corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization the display processing unit, the printing processing unit, and the storage processing unit respectively corresponding to the display mode, the printing mode, and the storage mode; and

executing another requested operation using the second data stored in the data storage unit, upon another request for operation execution, by a processing unit corresponding to one of the display processing unit, the printing processing unit, and the storage processing unit, corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by another request in a case where the judgment indicates that the another requested operation is executable.

25. (Currently Amended) An information access control method for use in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores information including encoded first data, the method comprising:

storing, in the memory, the encoded first data and applicable time information which defines a plurality of modes of utilization of the first data and executable time periods of operations respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization, the plurality of modes of utilization including a display mode, a printing mode, and a storage mode;

judging if a requested operation is executable, upon a request for operation execution, by reading the applicable time information from the memory and referring to an executable time period corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by the request to compare with a current time;

decoding the first data stored in the memory by a decoding unit corresponding to one of a display data decoding unit, a printing data decoding unit, and a storage data decoding unit, corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request when the judgment indicates that the requested operation is executable, the decoding unit being one of a plurality of decoding units provided respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization the display data decoding unit, the printing data decoding unit, and the storage data decoding unit respectively corresponding to the display mode, the printing mode, and the storage mode;

preventing the decoding of the first data until a current time reaches the executable time period in a case where the judgment does not indicate that the requested operation is executable, and decoding the first data by the decoding unit corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request after a current time reaches the executable time period; and

executing the requested operation using second data obtained from decoding the first data by a processing unit corresponding to one of a display processing unit, a printing processing unit, and a storage processing unit, corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request,

~~the processing unit being one of a plurality of processing units arranged respectively corresponding to the plurality of decoding units the display processing unit, the printing processing unit, and the storage processing unit respectively corresponding to the display data decoding unit, the printing data decoding unit, and the storage data decoding unit.~~

26. (Currently Amended) An information access control method for use in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores information including encoded first data, the method comprising:

storing, in the memory, the encoded first data and applicable time information which defines a plurality of modes of utilization of the first data and executable time periods of operations respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization, the plurality of modes of utilization including a display mode, a printing mode, and a storage mode;

judging if a requested operation is executable, upon a request for operation execution, by reading the applicable time information from the memory and referring to an executable time period corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by the request to compare with a current time;

decoding the first data stored in the memory by a decoding unit when the judgment indicates that the requested operation is executable;

preventing the decoding of the first data until a current time reaches the executable time period when the judgment does not indicate that the requested operation is executable, and decoding the first data by the decoding unit corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request after a current time reaches the executable time period;

storing, in a data storage unit, second data obtained from decoding the first data;

executing the requested operation using the second data stored in the data storage unit by ~~a processing unit corresponding to one of a display processing unit, a printing processing unit, and a storage processing unit, corresponding to~~ the mode of utilization indicated by the request, ~~the processing unit being one of a plurality of processing units which respectively execute operations corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization the display processing unit, the printing processing unit, and the storage processing unit respectively corresponding to the display mode, the printing mode, and the storage mode; and~~

executing another requested operation using the second data stored in the data storage unit, upon another request for operation execution, by a processing unit corresponding to one of the display processing unit, the printing processing unit, and the storage processing unit, corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by another request, when the judgment indicates that the another requested operation is executable or after a current time reaches the executable time period when the judgment does not indicate that the another requested operation is executable.

27. (Currently Amended) A storage medium having program code instructions stored thereon which perform information access control when executed by a processor in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores information including encoded first data, the instructions comprising:

storing, in the memory, the encoded first data and applicable time information which defines a plurality of modes of utilization of the first data and executable time periods of operations respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization the plurality of modes of utilization including a display mode, a printing mode, and a storage mode;

judging if a requested operation is executable, upon a request for operation execution, by reading the applicable time information from the memory and referring to an executable time period corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by the request to compare with a current time;

decoding the first data stored in the memory by a decoding unit corresponding to one of a display data decoding unit, a printing data decoding unit, and a storage data decoding unit, corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request when the judgment indicates that the requested operation is executable, the decoding unit being one of a plurality of decoding units provided respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization the display data decoding unit, the printing data decoding unit, and the storage data decoding unit respectively corresponding to the display mode, the printing mode, and the storage mode; and

executing the requested operation using second data obtained from decoding the first data by a processing unit corresponding to one of a display processing unit, a printing processing unit, and a storage processing unit, corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request, the processing unit being one of a plurality of processing units arranged respectively

~~corresponding to the plurality of decoding units the display processing unit, the printing processing unit, and the storage processing unit respectively corresponding to the display data decoding unit, the printing data decoding unit, and the storage data decoding unit.~~

28. (Currently Amended) A storage medium having program code instructions stored thereon which perform information access control when executed by a processor in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores information including encoded first data, the instructions comprising:

storing, in the memory, the encoded first data and applicable time information which defines a plurality of modes of utilization of the first data and executable time periods of operations respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization, the plurality of modes of utilization including a display mode, a printing mode, and a storage mode;

judging if a requested operation is executable, upon a request for operation execution, by reading the applicable time information from the memory and referring to an executable time period corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by the request to compare with a current time;

decoding the first data stored in the memory by a decoding unit when the judgment indicates that the requested operation is executable;

storing, in a data storage unit, second data obtained from decoding the first data;

executing the requested operation using the second data stored in the data storage unit by a ~~processing unit corresponding to one of a display processing unit, a printing processing unit, and a storage processing unit~~, corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request, ~~the processing unit being one of a plurality of processing units which respectively execute operations corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization the display processing unit, the printing processing unit, and the storage processing unit respectively corresponding to the display mode, the printing mode, and the storage mode; and~~

executing another requested operation using the second data stored in the data storage unit, upon another request for operation execution, by a ~~processing unit corresponding to one of the display processing unit, the printing processing unit, and the storage processing unit, corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by another request when the judgment indicates that the another requested operation is executable.~~

29. (Currently Amended) A storage medium having program code instructions stored thereon which perform information access control when executed by a processor in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores information including encoded first data, the instructions comprising:

storing, in the memory, the encoded first data and applicable time information which defines a plurality of modes of utilization of the first data and executable time periods of operations respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization, the plurality of modes of utilization including a display mode, a printing mode, and a storage mode;

judging if a requested operation is executable, upon a request for operation execution, by reading the applicable time information from the memory and referring to an executable time period corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by the request to compare with a current time;

decoding the first data stored in the memory by a decoding unit corresponding to one of a display data decoding unit, a printing data decoding unit, and a storage data decoding unit, corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request in a case where the judgment indicates that the requested operation is executable, the decoding unit being one of a plurality of decoding units provided respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization the display data decoding unit, the printing data decoding unit, and the storage data decoding unit respectively corresponding to the display mode, the printing mode, and the storage mode;

preventing the decoding of the first data until a current time reaches the executable time period in a case where the judgment does not indicate that the requested operation is executable, and decoding the first data by the decoding unit corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request after a current time reaches the executable time period; and

executing the requested operation using second data obtained from decoding the first data by a processing unit corresponding to one of a display processing unit, a printing processing unit, and a storage processing unit, corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request, the processing unit being one of a plurality of processing units arranged respectively corresponding to the plurality of decoding units the display processing unit, the printing processing unit, and the storage processing unit respectively corresponding to the display data decoding unit, the printing data decoding unit, and the storage data decoding unit.

30. (Currently Amended) A storage medium having program code instructions stored thereon which perform information access control when executed by a processor in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores information including encoded first data, the instructions comprising:

storing, in the memory, the encoded first data and applicable time information which defines a plurality of modes of utilization of the first data and executable time periods of operations respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization the plurality of modes of utilization including a display mode, a printing mode, and a storage mode;

judging if a requested operation is executable, upon a request for operation execution, by reading the applicable time information from the memory and referring to an executable time period corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by the request to compare with a current time;

decoding the first data stored in the memory by a decoding unit when the judgment indicates that the requested operation is executable;

preventing the decoding of the first data until a current time reaches the executable time period when the judgment does not indicate that the requested operation is executable, and decoding the first data by the decoding unit corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request after a current time reaches the executable time period;

storing, in a data storage unit, second data obtained from decoding the first data;

executing the requested operation using the second data stored in the data storage unit by a processing unit corresponding to one of a display processing unit, a printing processing unit, and a storage processing unit, corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request, the processing unit being one of a plurality of processing units which respectively execute operations corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization the display processing unit, the printing processing unit, and the storage processing unit respectively corresponding to the display mode, the printing mode, and the storage mode; and

executing another requested operation using the second data stored in the data storage unit, upon another request for operation execution, by a processing unit corresponding to one of the display processing unit, the printing processing unit, and the storage processing unit, corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by another request, when the judgment indicates

that the another requested operation is executable or after a current time reaches the executable time period when the judgment does not indicate that the another requested operation is executable.